

***Detroit Housing Commission
Executive Summary
November 8, 2001***

Healthy Homes Initiative Announced At NOAAH's Fall Conference

The National Organization of African Americans In Housing (NOAAH) announced an educational campaign called the Healthy Homes Initiative at its Fall Conference which was held in Detroit October 28 - 30. HHI is a "safety and education program which will highlight hazards to health that plague families in all types of housing, particularly housing that is in need of repair or poorly constructed." According to NOAAH, the program will "focus on families' exposure to lead-based paint, pests, and household mold."

Congressional Appropriations Committee Ends Drug Elimination Program But Provides Funding For Drug Elimination Services Through An Increase In Operating Subsidy

A Congressional Appropriations Committee decided to end separate funding for the Drug Elimination Program while making money available for drug elimination services through operating subsidy. Previous to the conference committee decision, in separate appropriations bills, the U.S. House voted \$0 for the Drug Elimination program while the U.S. Senate voted to restore the \$310 million in funding provided in FY2001. The conference committee was to reconcile the two different bills. The compromise reached ends the Drug Elimination funding but increases the Public Housing Operating Subsidy by \$253 million. All items funded under Drug Elimination can be paid for through Operating Subsidy.

Metroventures/USA Inc. Selected As Herman Gardens' Program Manager

The Detroit Housing Commission Board of Commissioners has approved a three-year contract for Metroventures/USA, Inc. to provide day-to-day management of the planning, implementation and closeout of the Herman Gardens' HOPE VI

Program. The services provided will range from "drafting of the initial development approach, and continued refinement of a Revitalization Plan to coordination of the entire implementation effort through project closeout in accordance with the goals, schedule and budget of the multi-year implementation effort." Metroventures/USA, an African American-owned firm, was selected from among six firms in a competitive bidding process.

Youth Encouraging Seatbelt Use And Safety (YESS) Completes Survey At Villages At Parkside

A group of Parkside youngsters age 14 - 17 called Youth Encouraging Seatbelt Use and Safety (YESS) has completed a traffic and seatbelt use survey in the Parkside Community. After completing a National Highway Traffic Safety Administration four-day Child Passenger Safety Technician Training, YESS participants conducted a traffic survey at the Warren and Conner intersection. Over a five-day period, YESS tabulated the number of drivers who stopped for the red blinking light as well as the number of drivers and front seat passengers who were wearing seatbelts. The survey found that 60% to 84% of the drivers did not stop for the blinking red light. For seatbelt use, the survey found that 31% to 36% of the drivers were not wearing seatbelts and that 40% to 52% of the front seat passengers were also not wearing seatbelts. The results of the survey have been forwarded to the local police precinct, and to the Detroit Department of Public Works Traffic Engineering Division.

Home Ownership Training Classes Scheduled

A series of training classes has been scheduled as part of DHC's home ownership program. Classes will include sessions focussed on economic development strategies, credit counseling and home maintenance. DHC has already sold four of its scattered site houses to public housing residents and anticipates selling three more by the end of the year.

Community Meetings

Forest Park, November 13; State Fair, November 13; Conner Waveney, November 15; Villages at Parkside, November 15; Scattered Sites, November 15; Sheridan Place One, November 15; Brewster and Douglass, November 17; Sheridan Place II, November 19; Sojourner Truth, November 21; Warren West, November 21